

The Pikes Peak Pint is a monthly AA-oriented newsletter proudly serving Colorado Springs and its surrounding communities.

Pikes Peak Pint



October 2010



AREA MEETING ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, AND CHANGES

To include new meetings, changes, or cancellations please deliver or email them to our service office.

- The **TREATMENT COMMITTEE** will meet on the third Saturday of this month instead of the second.
- **CPC** meets at 1:30pm instead of 9:30am on the 1st Saturday of every month at the Downtown Group.
- The **ELLICOTT MEETING** is moving from 2202 N. Ellicott Hwy in the New Hope Church basement to the Bingo Hall attached to the Kountry Store at 233356 St. Hwy 94 on Tuesdays at 7:30 pm.
- The **FRIDAY NIGHT 12X12** discussion group that meets at Beth-el church at 4625 Ranch Drive on Fridays at 7:30 pm is changing to a study group named **HAPPY, JOYOUS and FREE**.
- A new open discussion meeting named **IN THE DOG HOUSE** will meet Tuesdays at 6pm at 127 E. Navajo Street.
- The **PHOENIX GROUP** that has been meeting M-F at 219 E. Bijou in room #30 of the Presbyterian church at 12pm will now meet once a week on Fridays only.
- A new closed meeting named **THE REAL DON'T WORRY BE HAPPY - OLD SCHOOL** will meet every Wednesday at 5:30pm at 1919 W. Colorado Ave. in the garage in back.
- The **STEP SISTERS & BROTHERS 12X12** group that met the 2nd & 4th Saturdays of each month at the Fellowship Hall at 2375 N. Academy will now meet at the Peer at 308-I S. 8th St. every Saturday.

Notes from the EDITOR

Write to me at pint@coloradospringsaa.org!



- **SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES** page 5
- **A NEWCOMER'S EXPERIENCE** page 6
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Love IT? Hate IT?

Have something to SAY about IT?

Please email sobriety anniversaries, announcements, letters to the editor, and email subscription requests to the Pikes Peak Pint before the 20th of each month!

pint@coloradospringsaa.org

We'd LOVE to hear from you!

LOCAL SERVICE OFFICE

T-F 9am-5pm, SAT 9am-12pm
1353 South 8th Street, Suite 209
Colorado Springs, CO 80905

719-573-5020

Email: serviceoffice@coloradospringsaa.org

Website: www.coloradospringsaa.org

INTERGROUP INFORMATION

(Contact the Service Office for Chair phone numbers.)

DISTRICT COMMITTEES

Corrections

Greg N. - Chair
Renee - Vice Chair
corrections@coloradospringsaa.org

Public Information

Jack - Chair
OPEN - Vice Chair
pi@coloradospringsaa.org

CPC (Cooperation with the Professional Community)

Joey - Chair
Larry S. - Vice Chair
cpc@coloradospringsaa.org

Treatment

Mike H. - Chair
OPEN - Vice Chair
treatment@coloradospringsaa.org

LOCAL SERVICE COMMITTEES

Program

Tomas M. - Chair
Megan H. - Vice Chair
programs@coloradospringsaa.org

Pint

Amiee F. - Chair
OPEN - Vice Chair
pint@coloradospringsaa.org

Volunteer

Cissy - Chair
Adrienne - Vice Chair
programs@coloradospringsaa.org

Nightwatch

Dana - Chair
Jessica S. - Vice Chair
nightwatch@coloradospringsaa.org

Web Site

Bert B. - Chair
Dana E. - Vice Chair
webmaster@coloradospringsaa.org

Archives

Frank - Chair
OPEN - Vice Chair
archives@coloradospringsaa.org

CONTRIBUTION ADDRESSES

(Cash accepted in person only, please do not mail.)

AREA SERVICE OFFICE

Make check or money order payable to:
Area Service Office
Include Group Name and Number on check.

Send to:

Colorado Springs Area Service Office (CSASO)
1353 South 8th Street, Suite 209
Colorado Springs, CO 80905

GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE

Make check or money order payable to: **General Fund**
Include Group Name and Number on check.

Send to:

General Service Office (GSO)
PO Box 459, Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163

AREA 10

Make check or money order payable to: **Area 10**
Include Group Name, Number, and District #7 on check.

Send to:

Area 10 Treasurer
12081 West Alameda Parkway #418
Lakewood, CO 80228

DISTRICT

Make check or money order payable to: **District #7**
Include Group Name, Number, and District # on check.

Send to:

Colorado Springs Area Service Office (CSASO)
1353 South 8th Street, Suite 209
Colorado Springs, CO 80905

PINK CAN CONTRIBUTIONS

Make check or money order payable to:
Area 10 Corrections Committee
Include Group Name and Number on check.

Send to:

Pink Can Contributions
PO Box 1307
Englewood, CO 80150

Your Area Service Office and Intergroup would like you know how very much we appreciate your personal contributions!



Thank you!

In the month of August we received
6 Grateful Giver contributions,
4 Personal contributions,
and 1 Birthday contribution!!!

GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS - THANK YOU FOR ALL OF YOUR SUPPORT!!!

NAME OF MEETING	AUG 2010	YR TO DATE	NAME OF MEETING	AUG 2010	YR TO DATE
ABOVE THE BAR		\$0.00	LIVING FREE		\$0.00
APEX		\$157.00	LIVING SOBER		\$0.00
BACK TO BASICS		\$278.82	M.A.G.	\$200.00	\$500.00
BEACON LIGHT		\$150.00	MOTHERLODE		\$0.00
BIG BOOK ACTION		\$155.50	NATURAL HIGH		\$0.00
BIG BOOK STUDY UPH		\$250.00	NEW BEGINNERS		\$227.26
BLACK FOREST		\$254.73	NEW WOMEN'S		\$301.24
BREATH OF LIFE		\$28.00	NORTHWESTERS		\$122.50
BROADMOOR		\$0.00	NOT A GLUM LOT		\$0.00
BROWN BAGGERS		\$100.00	THE OASIS GROUP	\$10.00	\$30.00
CELEBRATING DIVERSITY		\$0.00	OFF THE WALL	\$43.00	\$209.00
CENTRAL		\$5.00	OUTRIGHT MENTAL DEFECTIVES		\$0.00
CLEAN AIR	\$125.00	\$245.00	PASS IT ON		\$0.00
CRIPPLE CREEK NATURAL HIGH		\$0.00	PATHFINDERS		\$0.00
DON'T WORRY BE HAPPY	\$128.40	\$128.40	PENROSE DISCUSSION		\$0.00
DOWN BY THE CREEK		\$0.00	PLUG IN THE JUG		\$170.00
THE DOWNTOWN GROUP	\$99.70	\$561.15	THE PRE-DAWN MEETING		\$0.00
DRYLANDER'S GROUP		\$47.10	PROGRESS NOT PERFECTION	\$57.67	\$172.33
EASY BREATHING		\$64.50	RECOVERY IN ACTION		\$150.00
EASY DOES IT	\$50.00	\$250.00	RULE #62		\$0.00
THE ELLICOTT GROUP		\$50.00	SAT EARLY MORNING MEETING		\$0.00
END OF THE ROAD		\$0.00	SECURITY EYE OPENER		\$0.00
EYE OPENER		\$0.00	SERENITY RIDERS		\$271.48
1ST 164 PAGES	\$72.95	\$72.95	SERENITY SISTERS		\$0.00
4TH DIMENSION		\$0.00	SILVER KEY SENIORS	\$25.00	\$50.00
THE FAR NORTH GROUP		\$0.00	SOLUTIONS AT 5:30		\$44.00
FOUNTAIN OF SOBRIETY		\$0.00	SOLUTIONS AT NOON		\$294.90
FOXHALL GROUP		\$158.68	STEEL MAGNOLIAS		\$159.50
FREEDOM FROM BONDAGE		\$0.00	SUNDAY MORNING SPEAKER		\$0.00
FRIDAY NIGHT 12X12	\$60.00	\$60.00	SUN NIGHT BIG BOOK CLEAN SLATE		\$40.00
FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE		\$0.00	THE SURVIVORS GROUP		\$0.00
FRIDAY WOMEN'S GROUP		\$449.00	TAKING STEPS		\$250.00
GALS OF WOODLAND PARK		\$0.00	THEN AND NOW		\$150.00
GIFT OF THE HEART		\$0.00	THURSDAY MENS	\$200.00	\$350.00
GOOD OLE BOYS		\$0.00	THURSDAY NOON AT WP		\$95.00
H.O.W.		\$0.00	UTE PASS BREAKFAST		\$0.00
THE HALF PINT GROUP		\$87.00	VETERANS FOR AA		\$0.00
HAPPY DESTINY		\$325.23	WALK THE TALK	\$240.00	\$960.00
HAPPY HOUR		\$330.00	WALKING ON WATER		\$300.00
THE HILLTOP AA MEETING		\$0.00	WE ARE NOT SAINTS		\$297.20
HIGH NOON	\$18.00	\$81.50	WED WESTSIDE WOMENS		\$0.00
THE HUGO GROUP		\$0.00	WESTSIDE EYE OPENER		\$401.05
INTO ACTION		\$0.00	WOMENS STEP STUDY AT WP	\$90.00	\$90.00
KEEP IT SIMPLE		\$0.00	WOODLAND PARK BEGINNERS	\$60.00	\$60.00
KEYSTONE TO RECOVERY		\$100.00	WOODLAND PARK BOOK STUDY		\$200.50
THE LAKE GEORGE GROUP		\$0.00	YOUNG PEOPLE		\$0.00
LAST CHANCE		\$0.00			
THE LITTLE LOG GROUP		\$0.00	TOTALS	\$1,479.72	\$10,285.52

***YEAR TO DATE TOTALS REFLECT OUR FISCAL YEAR WHICH BEGAN IN MARCH 2010 AND WILL END IN APRIL 2011.**

Our 7TH TRADITION states that we are fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions. Contributions from within the fellowship keep not only each of the individual groups going but also our local Service Office. Financial reports are given to group representatives at each monthly Intergroup meeting and can also be obtained upon request from the Service Office.

Anniversaries of Sobriety ~ October 2010

<p>HAPPY HOUR</p> <p>Amy M. ----- 2 years Christopher P. ---- 2 years! Dawn B. ----- 18 years! Nancy G. ----- 12 years! Thea S. ----- 3 years!</p>	<p>SOLUTIONS @ NOON</p> <p>Alan R. ----- 1 year! Hubert W. ----- 2 years!</p> <p>STEEL MAGNOLIAS</p> <p>Becky J. ----- 17 years! Rebecca K. ----- 3 years!</p>	<p>TUESDAY NEW WOMAN</p> <p>Kathy F. ----- 33 years! Katrina ----- 4 years! Mariellyn M. ---- 38 years!</p> <p>WE ARE NOT SAINTS</p> <p>Amy C. ----- 23 years!</p>	<p>Colin ----- 31 years! Dawn B. ----- 18 years! Doug ----- 1 years! Lee ----- 21 years! Todd P. ----- 4 years! Wendy ----- 1 year!</p>
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...In those days I was awfully cute...



...and dashing...

...or so I thought...



To submit your group's sober birthdays to The Pint, please email a list of names and the amount of years each person has to: PINT@COLORADOSPRINGSAA.ORG. Please have birthdays and any other announcements or editorials your group would like to contribute submitted by the 20th of each month to ensure enough time for publishing. Thank you for all of your participation and CONGRATULATIONS to everyone celebrating a MILESTONE OF RECOVERY!

AA AROUND TOWN

A Newcomer's Experience

This time in my life is so beautiful and special. I am finding that the less I try to control life's plans for me, the more it feels like I am experiencing what is meant to be, and that I will end up becoming a better, intelligent, and loving person. I will come into the lives of those who were meant to impact my life, and I into theirs. I am starting to see this since I've been sober... and am coming to believe it more and more every day. I am feeling so much that I haven't in a long time. Someone told me that this program will show me the path to the life I was meant to have... and the true independence of my soul. I am seeing this more with each day I choose to be here sober. I feel like I'm seeing a purpose for the first time in my life. I am in the right place for today. I am around others who I need to be with, for them, and for myself. I am truly starting to *believe*...

Anonymous



CPC/PI COMMITTEES
WANT YOU!



Both committees are very busy and always have opportunities for service! Please go to either of their monthly meetings to get involved! Cooperation w/ the Professional Community meets the first Saturday of every month at 1:30pm at 7 E. Bijou. Public Information meets the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 6pm on the 5th floor of St. Francis Hospital.

STEP UP INTO SERVICE!

The following Service Positions are currently **OPEN** and **NEED** to be filled! Please contact the **Service Office** or come to the next **Intergroup Meeting** Tuesday October 12th to learn how **you** can become involved!

C0 - DCM

Archives Committee - Vice Chairperson

PINT Committee - Vice Chairperson

Corrections Committee - Vice Chairperson

Public Information Committee - Vice Chairperson

NIGHTWATCH has OPEN POSITIONS!!!

Contact **Dana** at nightwatch@coloradospringsaa.org

The **SERVICE OFFICE** has **OPEN POSITIONS!**

Volunteer Thursdays 1-3pm, Fridays 9-11am or 11am-1 pm

Contact **Cissy** at volunteers@coloradospringsaa.org

The **TREATMENT COMMITTEE** NEEDS volunteers!

Contact **Michael** at treatment@coloradospringsaa.org

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE INTERGROUP CHARTER

The following change specifying chair terms will be voted on at the Intergroup meeting on December 14th. Groups are encouraged to discuss this amendment with their representatives so an appropriate group conscience can be reflected.

CURRENT WORDING:

Article XI

2. Chairpersons of Intergroup Service Committees shall be appointed by the Intergroup Chairperson and approved by a simple majority of the voting members present. Two years' continuous sobriety is recommended as a qualification. Committee chairpersons will be appointed for one year, and may serve a maximum of two terms in succession.

WITH NEW WORDING:

Article XI

2. Chairpersons of Intergroup Service Committees shall be appointed by the Intergroup Chairperson and approved by a simple majority of the voting members present. Two years' continuous sobriety is recommended as a qualification. Committee chairpersons will be appointed for **a one year term, beginning May 1st and ending April 30**, and may serve a maximum of two terms in succession.

3. If a Chairperson serves 180 days (six months) or more in one office within a given fiscal year, she/he shall be considered to have served a term. Service of less than 180 days within a fiscal year shall not be counted as a term.

(Note: #3 would be inserted and all of the following numbers in the article will be changed accordingly.)

WORKSHOP

HOW TO WRITE ARTICLES FROM THE GRAPEVINE



- WHO:** Kelley B., our Grapevine State Representative from Durango!
- WHEN:** Sunday, October 17, 2010
- WHERE:** Walk the Talk
- TIME:** 1pm - 3pm
- ADDRESS:** 5975 N. Academy Suite 2110

There will be a handout. Please bring something to write with and a snack to share.
Questions: Patty 265-5991



**“I AM RESPONSIBLE WHEN ANYONE,
ANYWHERE, REACHES OUT FOR HELP,
I WANT THE HAND OF A.A. ALWAYS TO BE THERE,
AND FOR THAT I AM RESPONSIBLE.”**

We have a lot of OPEN positions available!!!!
Please contact us to be a volunteer to carry the message of
Alcoholics Anonymous and help the alcoholic that still suffers
If you have any questions regarding Night Watch
please contact us .



Jessica S. 719-641-2385
Dana 719-491-0587

Thanks again, your service is appreciated!
email: nightwatch@coloradospringsaa.org

AA OUTSIDE of TOWN

The 2010 State Convention

I love AA Conventions and so does my wife. We have attended the last ten Colorado State Conventions including 2010 in Denver, whose theme was: "Our Primary Purpose". The Convention was a great example of just that: *carrying the message*. If you are a recovering alcoholic and have never attended one of our State Conventions you owe it to yourself to do so. We always experience a new freedom and a new happiness at our fine conventions and the sober enthusiasm of more than 1200 alcoholics is intoxicating!

There are always fine speakers and this year was no exception. Two of the AA speakers were from Colorado, Lori M. and Claudine B., and both of the ALANON speakers were local. This year they were maybe not so polished as some, but they all spoke from the heart and carried a message of hope; especially from Tom I. from North Carolina, who not only had the greatest length of sobriety of all of us attending the convention, (53 years!), but quietly gave the most powerful message of hope that I have heard in our fellowship, proving to this alcoholic what our Big Book promises. That no matter how far down the scale we have gone, we will see how our experience can benefit others.....

Much to do at a convention! Attend one or many 'Continuous Meetings' of Alcoholics Anonymous, two at least were chaired by Colorado Springs alcoholics. Sit in on one of the several workshops, both AA and ALANON, and grow in effectiveness and understanding of what we are all about. Hungry? The 'Hospitality Rooms' always have a spread laid on thick, especially, I must say, our ALANON brethren. They put on the dog! And of course there is the 'Luncheon' and the 'Banquet' on Saturday night, and the 'Ice Cream Social' on Friday night.

At our conventions we have the opportunity to choose from among hundreds of speaker cd's from AA speakers from all over the country. We can visit the 'Archives Room' and explore our history, especially local, (we discovered that the first Alcoholics Anonymous group was established in Denver in 1941, and two years later, Central Group was established here in the Springs). In the 'Media Room' tapes play archival film of Bill W. speaking of our Traditions, 'AA in Prison', 'It Sure Beats Sitting in a Cell', and others. And there's always the 'junk dealers' where AA swag, (non-conference approved, of course, but fun anyway), can be had: t-shirts, medallions, jewelry etc. And I get a kick watching all of us drunks, each with a 'bottomless' cup of coffee in hand.....

Probably my favorite event at the Conventions is the Saturday Night 'Sobriety Count-Down', before the key-note speaker. We happily celebrate our own sobriety, (and why not?), by acknowledging how many years, from 53! all the way to months and then days of continuous sobriety. At our 2010 State convention in Denver Colorado the sobriety count was from 53 years of continuous sobriety, to two days of sobriety, with 1200 sober alcoholics in between, totaling more than 70000 years of continuous sobriety in one room.....it moves me even now to think about that miracle.

Anonymous



OcSoberfest 2010

"Sunlight of the Spirit"

October 1 - 3

Pueblo Convention Center
and Marriott Hotel

Special hotel rate for OcSoberfest 2010 at adjacent Marriott Hotel is \$99 + 11.7% tax.
Make reservations by calling 1-866-706-7815; mention OcSoberfest to get this rate.
** A full-service hotel one block west of 1st Street exit 98B off I25 **

AA Speakers

- Friday night: Larry T., Downey, California
- Saturday morning: Barbara E., Long Beach, California
- Saturday evening: Mary Beth A., San Diego, California
- Sunday morning: Jack M., Englewood, Colorado

Al-Anon Speaker Saturday afternoon:
Dawn C., Chicago, Illinois

- ✓ CONTINUOUS MEETINGS DURING EVENT
- ✓ FELLOWSHIP
- ✓ HOSPITALITY ROOM WITH ABUNDANT SNACKS
- ✓ SILENT AUCTION

Yes, register me for OcSoberfest 2010...

Name: _____ AA Al-Anon Other

Address: _____ Phone: () _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ email: _____

If registering spouse or guests (residing at same address), their names:

Number Registered @ \$20 each = \$ _____

REGISTRATION DEADLINE SEPT. 21. REGISTRATION AFTER THAT DATE IS \$25

Saturday Dutch Lunch-Sandwich Buffet.....Number: _____ @ \$17 each = \$ _____

Saturday evening Italian Dinner Buffet.....Number: _____ @ \$22 each = \$ _____

"Bottomless" stainless steel coffee travel mug.....Number: _____ @ \$16 each = \$ _____

My payment includes a scholarship donation of.....\$ _____

Reserve _____ OcSoberfest "Sunlight of the Spirit" t-shirts @15. each.....= \$ _____

indicate no. & size(s): S: _____ M: _____ L: _____ XL: _____ XXL: _____

My check is enclosed in the amount of.....\$ _____

Credit cards not accepted.

I would like to volunteer to help if needed: Anywhere or Registration Security Hospitality Greeter

Make check payable to "OcSoberfest 2010" and mail to:

**OcSoberfest
P. O. Box 7068
Pueblo West, CO 81007**

**Need additional information? Contact:
Chrissy G. Kevin W.
719/544-9267 719/242-5235**

SWRAASA

DENVER 2010

Service, Our Third Legacy

October 8th - 10th, 2010

**Doubletree Hotel Denver
3203 Quebec Street, Denver, CO 80207**

<http://tinyurl.com/swraasahotel>

(303) 321-3333

www.swraasa.org

Contact Registration Chair Samantha G. by Phone: 858-531-8036

Chairperson
Gelong Tashi:
altdelegate@coloradoaa.org
(303) 219-0692

Co-Chair
Jennifer F.
jpenco@sopris.net
(970) 948-7160

\$10 Registration Fee - \$7 Ice Cream Social Each Night

Name _____ Address _____

Email _____ Phone _____

_____ Registration _____ Ice Cream Social Friday _____ Ice Cream Social Saturday \$ _____ Total

Make checks payable to "SWRAASA 2010"

Send To: 2010 Registration Chair P.O. Box 603 Cañon City, CO 81215

Step 10

Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admitted it.

Wrong Turn

The first question I had about Step Ten was: How soon do I have to admit when I am wrong? "Promptly" seemed so vague. The answer from an AA old-timer was: "How long you been sober?" Annoyed, I asked back: "What has that got to do with it?" The answer was: "The longer you are sober, the shorter the 'promptly' gets!"

The next thing I had to learn about Step Ten is that it doesn't say anything about being "sorry." When I was drinking I had a constant stream of "Sorrys." Now that I have been free of the booze for a few thousand days I rarely have to say I'm sorry, but I often have to say that I was wrong. There is a big difference. I've been taught that if I say "I'm sorry" and then leave it like that, I am leaving a lot unsaid that should be said. I am really asking for forgiveness or some sort of "general absolution." But that's not what this alcoholic usually needs. What I need to say is how I was wrong and where I went wrong (thinking of the exact nature of my wrongs, Step Five). And, thinking of Step Nine, how I was going to make it up to the person or set things right. What are my amends here? No empty promises of "I'll never do it again!" No begging for forgiveness. An amends makes me work to put things back to the way they were before my wrong was committed.

To say I was wrong is also part of that AA medicine of ego deflation at depth. I'm not sorry because you are hurt but rather I am admitting that I am wrong because *I* did something to harm you. Big difference in my book! I have spent time figuring out what exactly I was wrong about, and I have spent time figuring out a proposal of how I am going to straighten things out, since that too is my responsibility and not yours. But I am going to confer with you about this and not impose my solution on you. I may offer several options for you to choose from. I am going to continue a radically honest (but calm and tactful) dialog with you in whatever way is appropriate.

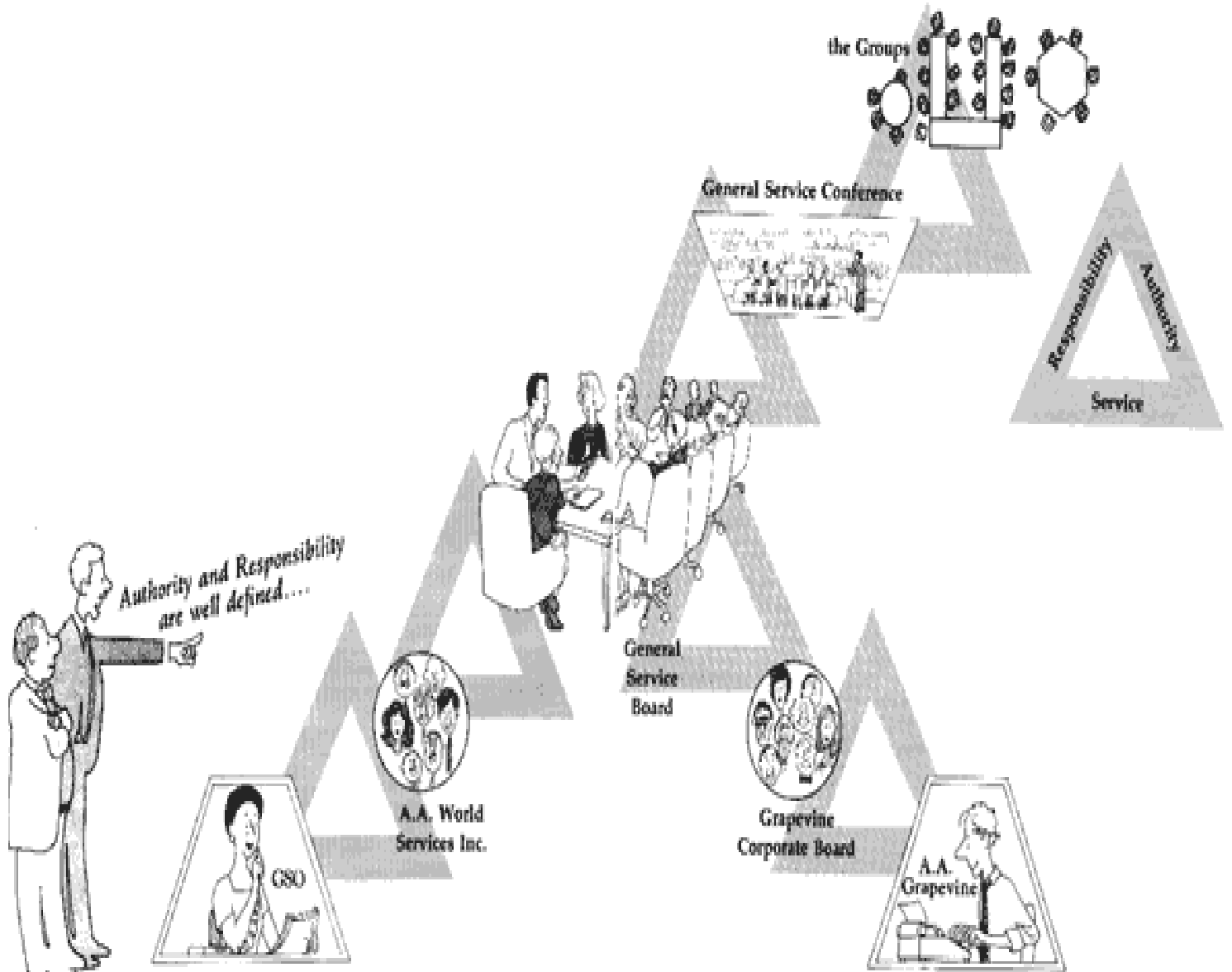
Another thing I had to learn about this Step was that it means that I only take responsibility for when I was actually wrong. If I wasn't wrong on one part but was wrong on another, I say so. I cop it sweet for the parts that I was wrong about but not for the rest of it. For instance, I often have to say something like: "Son, I want to tell you that I was way out of line by raising my voice and yelling at you like that. It was wrong of me to do it in a public place and in front of your friends because that is not only embarrassing but also rude and insensitive. In the future I propose to take you aside or wait until we are away from your mates. I will work on getting my volume and impulsive anger under control. Can you help me by telling me that I am yelling or that I am embarrassing you if I forget? On the other hand, I believe that what I said was correct. What you were doing was risky and a bit dangerous. I stand by my statement but was wrong to yell and embarrass you. I'll make it up to you by. . ."

Lastly, I've been taught that this Step contains the most important word out of the 200 (count 'em) words in all of the Steps. That word is "continued." Makes a nice word to meditate upon.

Chuck F. - Canberra
The Grapevine October 1999

Concept 10

Every service responsibility should be matched by an equal service authority - the scope of such authority to be always well defined whether by tradition, by resolution, by specific job description or by appropriate charters and bylaws.



Tradition 10

Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the AA name ought never be drawn into public controversy.

Do I ever give the impression that there really is an "AA opinion" on Antabuse? Tranquilizers? Doctors? Psychiatrists? Churches? Hospitals? Jails? Alcohol? The federal or state government? Legalizing marijuana? Vitamins? Al-anon? Alateen?

Can I honestly share my own personal experience concerning any of those without giving the impression I am stating the "AA opinion"?

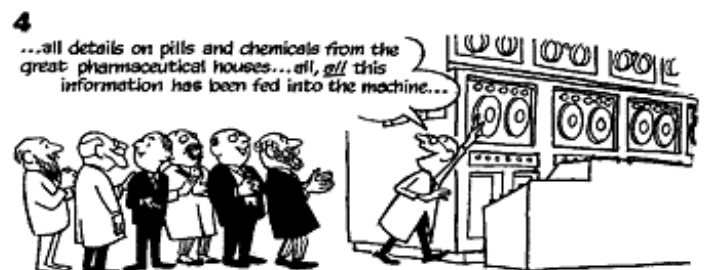
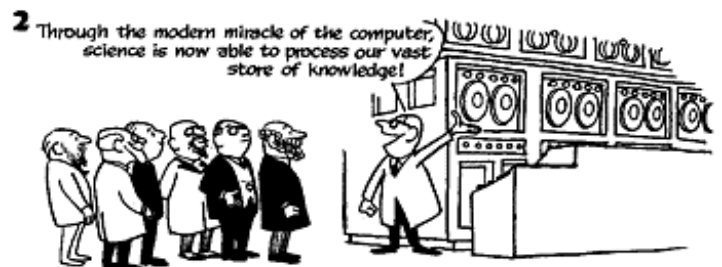
What in AA history gave rise to our Tenth Tradition?

Have I had a similar experience in my own AA life?

What would AA be without this Tradition? Where would I be?

Do I breach this or any of its supporting Traditions in subtle, perhaps unconscious, ways?

How can I manifest the spirit of this Tradition in my personal life outside AA? Inside AA?



Promise 10

We will intuitively know how to handle situations which used to baffle us.

Waiting for the Manifestation

"A.A. has kept me dry four months," a sincere member said at our Group meeting the other night, "but the spiritual angle eludes me. I have turned my life and will over to God as I understand Him. I have looked for a manifestation that His power is operating in my behalf. But I'm still waiting."

There was a little silence. It was simple to diagnose the current trouble of this swell little guy who had gained sobriety and made great progress in so short a time. He was just a little impatient--and just a little blind. Finally, somebody had a happy thought. He spoke gently.

"Joe," he said, "I remember an experience of yours soon after you found A.A. You told about it, right here, a month ago. It had to do with your mother in some little Michigan town. Does it come to mind?"

"Oh, sure," Joe said heartily. "I'll never forget that. My mother is pretty old, you know, and I'd never done anything to make her younger. Fact is, my drinking and carrying on was edging her right into the grave. I was the only drunkard in our large family--but one, of course, is too many.

"Well, in my case I guess Mother had given up all hope, and I could never blame her. So many promises, so many disappointments. I was hopeless, too. And then along came A.A., and after a little period of sobriety, hope came back. And when my faith came back, too, I wrote Mother a little letter and told her what had happened--and what, I felt sure, was going to keep on happening.

"She couldn't wait to write her answer. She wired! The telegram just said, 'Thank God,' and then told about a family reunion she had cooked up for Detroit the following Sunday. That family meeting hit me with terrific impact. Nobody said anything embarrassing; they didn't talk much at all. But everybody was so radiantly happy.

"Mother--she was the quietest of all. She just sat in an old rocker and rocked--and looked at me. It was the look in her eyes that got me, the pride in 'em. That was what I'd wanted all my life, to make her proud. It was the way she'd wanted to see me for years, but couldn't.

"I tell you, it was the biggest day of my life. It was sort of like an impossible dream come true. Kind of like a miracle----". Joe broke off quickly. There was another silence. He realized that every eye was on him, everybody was smiling a little. He fidgeted in his chair.

"For the love of Mike!" he exploded at last. "Stupid, ain't I?"

"Still waiting for a manifestation, Joe?" prodded the gentle-voiced member who had jogged the worried lad's memory.

"Oh, I see it," Joe said quickly. "I see what you're getting at. That was a manifestation, all right, and I suppose there have been plenty more in these four months. But it all came so naturally, and hardly the way I expected. Somehow, I never quite looked at it that way----"

Somehow, so *many* of us don't.

E.B. - Chicago, Illinois 1946

AA Thought for the Day

- An optimist sees the glass as half full. A pessimist sees the glass as half empty. An alcoholic sees the glass as pointless.
- An alcoholic is a person who takes a drink for a reason.
- An alcoholic is a person who boasts of being a rebel, yet can't refuse liquor in a social situation, because "everybody drinks."
- A pessimist is a person who, when given a choice between two evils, chooses them both.
- Nothing is ever so bad that a drink won't make worse.
- There is no happiness so perfect that a drink won't ruin it.
- Some blackouts are better left forgotten.
- You hit bottom when you stop digging.
- Reality can be as painful to accept as it was to escape from.
- Don't regret growing old, it's a privilege denied to many.
- Honesty is the soul of courage. Courage is the soul of humility. Humility is the soul of happiness.
- Loneliness occurs when my heart tells me I need people at the same time my ego says I don't.
- Resentments are like stray cats: if you don't feed them they go away.
- Vision is. . .the very essence of prudence.
- Frustration: impatience with people who fail to understand that my viewpoint is the only correct one.
- I never get bored. I just get too lazy to try new things.
- If you throw mud, you're sure to lose ground.
- When you're off the beam, you don't know you're off the beam, because you're off the beam.
- There are so many ways to be a fool, no alcoholic can duck them all.
- Strange, isn't it, that those rigorous inventories I enjoy taking of you turn out to fit me so well?
- In about the same degree as you are helpful, you will be happy.

First one quoted by Tony G. All the rest were chosen by the editor from 'Short Takes', a part of the Digital Archives available online at AAGrapevine.org.

AA At A Glance ~ October 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
						Cooperation w/ Professional Community Meeting 1:30pm 7 E. Bijou
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Intergroup Board Meeting 6:30pm Service Office					
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
		Intergroup Meeting 7pm Bethany Baptist				Corrections Meeting + Treatment Committee Meeting
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	Submit Milestones & Letters to the Editor to The Pint	District 7 Meeting 7:30pm Red Cloud Serenity Club	Public Information Meeting 6pm-3rd floor St. Francis			
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Monthly Committee Meetings

The Board	1st Monday - 6:30pm - Service Office 1353 S. 8th St. Suite 106
Corrections	3rd Saturday - 9:00am - Sacred Heart 2021 W. Pikes Peak Ave. (room 6)
CPC	1st Saturday - 1:30pm - Downtown Group 7 East Bijou St. (room 205)
District 7	3rd Tuesday - 7:30pm - Red Cloud Serenity Club 8020 W. Highway 24, Cascade
Intergroup	2nd Tuesday - 7pm - Bethany Lutheran 1401 S. 8th St. (downstairs)
Public Information	3rd Wednesday - 6pm - St. Francis Hospital (5th floor)
Treatment	3rd Saturday (temporarily changed from 2nd Sat) - 4pm - Pikes Perk 14 S. Tejon



Lest We Forget

There Is A Solution

WE, of Alcoholics Anonymous, know thousands of men and women who were once just as hopeless as Bill. All have recovered. They have solved the drink problem.

We are average Americans. All sections of this country and many of its occupations are represented, as well as many political, economic, social and religious backgrounds. We are people who normally would not mix. But there exists among us a fellowship, a friendliness, and an understanding which is indescribably wonderful. We are like the passengers of a great liner the moment after rescue from shipwreck when camaraderie, joyousness and democracy pervade the vessel from steerage to Captain's table. Unlike the feelings of the ship's passengers, however, our joy in escape from disaster does not subside as we go our individual ways. The feeling of having shared in a common peril is one element in the powerful cement which binds us. But that in itself would never have held us together as we are now joined.

The tremendous fact for every one of us is that we have discovered a common solution. We have a way out on which we can absolutely agree, and upon which we can join in brotherly and harmonious action. This is the great news this book carries to those who suffer alcoholism.

An illness of this sort. . .and we have come to believe it an illness. . .involves those about us in a way no other human sickness can. If a person has cancer all are sorry for him and no one is angry or hurt. But not so with the alcoholic illness, for with it there goes annihilation of all the things worth while in life. It engulfs all whose lives touch the sufferer's. It brings misunderstanding, fierce resentment, financial insecurity, disgusted friends and employers, warped lives of blameless children, sad wives and parents. . .anyone can increase the list.

We hope this volume will inform and comfort those who are, or who may be affected. They are many.

Highly competent psychiatrists who have dealt with us, found it sometimes impossible to persuade an alcoholic to discuss his situation without reserve. Strangely enough, wives, parents and intimate friends usually find us even more unapproachable than do the psychiatrist and the doctor.

But the ex-problem drinker who has found this solution, who is properly armed with facts about himself, can generally win the entire confidence of another alcoholic in a few hours. Until such an understanding is reached, little or nothing can be accomplished.

That the man who is making the approach has had the same difficulty, that he obviously knows what he is talking about, that his whole deportment shouts at the new prospect that he is a man with a real answer, that he has no attitude of holier than thou, nothing whatever except the sincere desire to be helpful; that there are no fees to pay, no axes to grind, no people to please, no lectures to be endured. . .these are the conditions we found most effective. After such an approach many take up their beds and walk again.

Alcoholics Anonymous



2. *“At college, I showed great promise and was, I thought, a normal social drinker.”*